

## The State of New Hampshire

# Department of Environmental Services



May 18, 2005

Michael P. Nolin Commissioner

Danny Woodsome Woodsome Well Drilling Inc PO Box 21 No Waterboro ME 04061 **Notice of Violation** 

Dear Mr. Woodsome:

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services ("DES") received a citizen complaint on April 27, 2005 from Fred D'Amore of 116 Pine Hill Road, Madison, NH regarding a well constructed by your company. In the complaint, Mr. D'Amore stated that the well produced poor water quality and constantly ran dry since the day the well was turned on.

A site inspection was conducted by DES staff on April 29, 2005 and the inspection report is attached for your records.

As noted in the report, the following violations were observed during the inspection:

#### 1. At the wellhead:

- a. The pump circuit equipment grounding conductor was not bonded to the well casing in accordance with We 702.04(i), and
- b. The wire connections were not water tight connections as required by We 702.04(j);

## 2. In the well:

a. The well casing is leaking water into the well at approximately 20 feet below land surface in violation of We 602.06(e)(3);

#### 3. In the basement:

- a. The pump circuit electrical wiring is not encased in conduit, and is subject to physical damage, in violation of We 702.04(c), and
- b. The pump circuit electrical wiring is directly secured to the cold water piping in violation of We 702.04(d)(2).

On May 16, 2005 you called my office to inform DES that Woodsome Well Drilling Inc planned to replace Mr. D'Amore's existing well with a new drilled well, and the existing well would be

decommissioned in accordance with the rules of the Water Well Board. You suggested that the new well could be completed within the next two weeks.

We also discussed the violations which needed to be corrected with regard to the pump installation. You indicated that all of the corrections would be completed by Southern Maine Pump Supply. You also indicated to DES in a previous telephone communication that Southern Maine Pump Supply would be installing pumps for Woodsome Well Drilling Inc until such time as you are able to obtain your pump installer license.

DES approves of your decision to respond to Mr. D'Amore's complaint with the actions described above. Please notify me in writing at the address at the bottom of the page when the work is completed with an attached copy of the well completion report, or if the work cannot be completed within two weeks of the date of this notice.

Please also do not hesitate to call me at (603) 271-1974, if I can be of assistance to you and Mr. D'Amore in helping to bring this matter to a satisfactory conclusion.

Respectfully yours,

Richard P. Schofield, P.G.

Water Well Program Manager

## **Certified Mail**

cc. Fred D'Amore Sarah Pillsbury, Administrator, WSEB Kerry Barnsley, Compliance Attorney Water Well Board On April 29, 2005, DES staff conducted a field inspection of a well and pump installation at 116 Pine Hill Road, Madison, NH. The inspection was conducted in response to a consumer complaint received by the Water Well Board on 4-27-05 and filed by Fred D'Amore of the same address. The well contractor named in the complaint was Woodsome Well Drilling Inc of N. Waterboro, ME.

In the complaint Mr. D'Amore reported that the well has poor water quality and constantly runs dry since the day the well was turned on. Attached to the complaint was an inspection report conducted by Tasker Well Company on April 16, 2005. The well completion report was obtained from Woodsome Well Drilling and indicates a well depth of 220 feet with 30 feet of casing and a measured yield of 9 gallon per minute.

Upon arrival at the property Mr. D'Amore directed staff to the well location. The well was constructed in the rear of the property in a low area, the lowest area on the lot, which had standing water at the time of the site visit. The well site had been prepared and a small access road dosed to the well location which was an unusually long distance from the home. A review of the site plan indicated the well was located in accordance with the approved plan.

An inspection of the wellhead revealed that the submersible pump was the two wire w/ground type, and the green grounding conductor was not bonded to the well casing. All of the electric conductors were connected with wire nuts at the wellhead. The well cap did not fit completely over the well casing and was slightly offset due to the well casing being out of round. Several photographs were taken of the well.

The pump was started to lower the water level and inspect the casing for leakage which was noted in the Tasker report. The pumping level in the well dropped quickly indicating the yield of the well was low. A mirror was used to direct sun light into the well. A small stream of water was observed jetting across the well at approximately 20 feet. The casing appeared to be offset at this location.

An inspection of the pump system installation was also conducted. The installation was neat. At the point of entry into the house, the pump circuit wiring does not transition to NEC compliant methods. The romex type wire is secured to the water service line with zip ties up to the pressure switch. From the pressure switch to the top of the basement wall the wire is secured to the cold water piping with zip ties. None of the wiring is encased in conduit. Several pictures were taken.

The following violations of the NH Water Well Board Code of Administrative rules were observed during the inspection:

## 1. At the wellhead:

- a. The pump circuit equipment grounding conductor was not bonded to the well casing in accordance with We 702.04(i), and
- b. The wire connections were not water tight connections as required by We 702.04(j);

## 2. In the well:

a. The well casing is leaking water into the well at approximately 20 feet from land surface in violation of We 602.06(e)(3);

## 3. In the basement:

- a. The pump circuit electrical wiring is not encased in conduit and is subject to physical damage in violation of We 702.04(c), and
- b. The pump circuit electrical wiring is directly secured to the cold water piping in violation of We 702.04(d)(2).

Mr. D'Amore did not know who actually installed the pump system. There was no indication of the installer on the tank. The name Woodsome Well Drilling Inc, Limerick ME, Tel. 207-647-2520 was identified on the well cap. The telephone number on the cap is actually that of Irish Well Drilling Inc of Sebago, ME. Mr. Irish had no knowledge of the well and stated he did not install the pump.

RUPA

R. Schofield